

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT  
OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE AND INSPECTION**

In Re: Fuel Depot Inc.

File No.: UST 2013-85-00879

AAD No.: 14-003/WME

**CONSENT AGREEMENT**

**A. INTENT & PURPOSE**

This Agreement is entered by and between the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management's Office of Compliance & Inspection ("RIDEM") and Fuel Depot, Inc., (the "Respondent"). This Agreement is entered in accordance with Section 42-17.1-2 *et seq.* of the Rhode Island General Laws ("R.I. Gen. Laws") for the purpose of resolving the administrative enforcement action set forth in a Notice of Violation ("NOV") issued to the Respondent by the RIDEM on 17 April 2014.

**B. STIPULATED FACTS**

- (1) WHEREAS, the property is located at 644 Putnam Pike, Assessor's Plat 3, Lot 8 in the town of Smithfield, Rhode Island (the "Property"). The Property includes a motor fuel filling station and underground storage tanks (the "Facility").
- (2) WHEREAS, the Respondent owns the Property.
- (3) WHEREAS, underground storage tanks ("USTs" or "tanks") are located on the Property, which tanks are used for storage of petroleum products and which are subject to the *RIDEM's Rules and Regulations for Underground Storage Facilities Used for Petroleum Products and Hazardous Materials* (the "UST Regulations").
- (4) WHEREAS, the Facility is registered with the RIDEM and is identified as UST Facility No. 00879.
- (5) WHEREAS, on 17 April 2014, the RIDEM issued a NOV to the Respondent alleging certain violations of the RIDEM's UST Regulations.
- (6) WHEREAS, the Respondent requested an administrative hearing to contest the NOV.
- (7) WHEREAS, the Respondent complied with the Order section of the NOV.
- (8) WHEREAS, in lieu of proceeding to an administrative adjudicatory hearing on the NOV and to effect a timely and amicable resolution of the NOV, the RIDEM and the Respondent hereby agrees that it is in the best interest of the parties and in the public interest to resolve the issues raised in the NOV.

- (9) WHEREAS, the RIDEM finds that this Agreement is a reasonable and fair settlement and adequately protects the public interest in accordance with the RIDEM's UST Regulations.

### **C. AGREEMENT**

- (1) JURISDICTION – The RIDEM has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this Agreement and has personal jurisdiction over the Respondent.
- (2) FORCE and EFFECT – This Agreement shall have the full force and effect of a final compliance order issued after a full hearing on the merits pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act, R.I. Gen. Laws Section 42-35-1 et seq. from which no timely appeal was taken, and which is enforceable in Superior Court in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws Section 42-17.1-2(21)(v).
- (3) APPLICATION – The provisions of this Agreement shall apply to and be binding upon the RIDEM, the Respondent and its agents, servants, employees, successors, assigns and all persons, firms and corporations acting under, through and for the Respondent in the performance of work relating to or impacting the requirements of this Agreement.
- (4) PENALTY – The Respondent shall pay to the RIDEM the sum of \$2,400 in administrative penalties assessed as follows:
- (a) **Upon execution of this Agreement by the Respondent**, the Respondent shall pay to the RIDEM \$400.
  - (b) The remainder of the penalty, \$2,000, shall be paid to the RIDEM in 5 equal and consecutive monthly installments of \$400 starting on 1 November 2015. The total penalty shall be paid by the Respondent on or before 1 March 2016.
  - (c) Penalties that the Respondent agrees to pay in this Agreement are penalties payable to and for the benefit of the State of Rhode Island and are not compensation for actual pecuniary loss.
  - (d) In the event that the Respondent fails to remit to the RIDEM a payment on or before its due date, that payment will be considered late and the Respondent will be in default. If the payment is not received within 30 days of its due date, interest shall begin to accrue on the entire unpaid balance at the rate of 12% per annum. Interest will accrue at this rate beginning with the day after the due date specified in this Agreement until such date all past due installment and interest owed are remitted. Interest shall be calculated using the following generally established accounting principle:

$$\text{Interest due} = (\text{number of days late}/365) \times (0.12) \times (\text{amount of unpaid balance})$$

- (e) All penalty payments shall be in the form of a certified check, cashiers check, or money order, payable to the ***R.I. General Treasurer –Water and Air Protection Account***. All payments shall be delivered to:

Chief, RIDEM Office of Compliance and Inspection  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, RI 02908-5767

#### ***D. COMPLIANCE***

- (1) EFFECT OF COMPLIANCE – Compliance with and fulfillment of this Agreement shall be deemed to resolve all issues raised in the NOV. Upon the Respondent's successful completion of the requirements set forth in the Agreement, the RIDEM shall issue a Release and Discharge of the NOV to the Respondent for recording. The recording shall be at the sole expense of the Respondent.
- (2) COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS – Compliance with the terms of the Agreement does not relieve the Respondent of any obligation to comply with any other applicable laws or regulations administered by, through or for the RIDEM or any other governmental entity.
- (3) ADDITIONAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS – Upon a determination by the RIDEM that there is a threat to the public health or the environment, or upon discovery of any new information, the RIDEM reserves the right to take additional enforcement actions as provided by law or regulation, including, but not limited to, the issuance of “Immediate Compliance Orders” as authorized by R.I. Gen. Laws Section 42-17.1-2(21). This Agreement shall not restrict any right to hearing or other right available by statute or regulation that the Respondent may have regarding any new enforcement action commenced by the RIDEM after the execution of the Agreement.
- (4) FUTURE ACTIVITIES AND UNKNOWN CONDITIONS – This Agreement shall not operate to shield the Respondent from liability arising from future activities, as of the date of execution of this Agreement.
- (5) SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT – The scope of the Agreement is only violations alleged in the NOV.
- (6) NOTICE AND COMMUNICATION – Communications regarding this Agreement shall be directed to:

Tracey D’Amadio Tyrrell  
RIDEM Office of Compliance and Inspection  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, RI 02908-5767  
(401) 222-1360 ext. 7407

Joseph J. LoBianco, Esq.  
RIDEM Office of Legal Services  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, RI 02908-5767  
(401) 222-6607

Abed Sahyouni  
644 Putnam Pike  
Smithfield, RI 02828  
(401)649-5900

- (a) At any time prior to full compliance with the terms of this Agreement, the Respondent agrees to notify the RIDEM in writing of any change in ownership of the Property, and provide the name and address of the new owner(s). Notice of any change in address/telephone/fax of either party shall be sent to all other parties by certified mail.
- (b) All communications regarding compliance with this Agreement shall be forwarded to the above-referenced addressees by certified mail.
- (7) DEFERRAL – The RIDEM may, for good cause shown, defer any of the compliance dates prescribed herein. Good cause for deferral of any compliance date shall be forwarded to the RIDEM in writing at least 15 days prior to the prescribed deadline.
- (8) AMENDMENT – The Agreement may be amended by mutual agreement of the parties in writing.
- (9) EFFECTIVE DATE – This Agreement shall be deemed entered as of the date of execution by all parties.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned consent to this Agreement in substance and in form.**

*For Fuel Depot, Inc.*

By: \_\_\_\_\_ (Print Name)

Its: \_\_\_\_\_ (Title)

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

In my capacity as \_\_\_\_\_ of Fuel Depot, Inc., I hereby aver that I am authorized to enter into this Agreement and thereby bind Fuel Depot, Inc., to satisfy any obligation imposed upon it pursuant to said Agreement.

**State of Rhode Island**  
**County of \_\_\_\_\_**

In \_\_\_\_\_, in said County and State, on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015, before me personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ of Fuel Depot, Inc., a Rhode Island corporation, to me known and known by me to be the party executing the foregoing instrument on behalf of Fuel Depot, Inc., and he/she acknowledged said instrument by him/her executed, to be his/her/ free act and deed in said capacity and the free act and deed of Fuel Depot, Inc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public  
My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

*For the State of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management*

\_\_\_\_\_  
David E. Chopy, Chief  
Office of Compliance and Inspection

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_